

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
FRB-01 INR-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15 TRSE-00 XMB-04
OPIC-06 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15
STR-07 CEA-01 AGRE-00 /096 W
-----023428 180717Z /20

R 170958Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1994

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3653

E. O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ETRD IS
SUBJ: ISRAEL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, TOURISM UP IN JAN - FEB
PERIOD

REF.: TEL AVIV 2534

1. THE FOLLOWING ARE CENTRAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS PRE-
LIMINARY TOTALS FOR JAN-FEB EXPORTS (IN MILLIONS OF DOLLARS):

	JAN-FEB	JAN-FEB	PERCENT CHANGE
		JAN-FEB 78 FROM	
		AN-FEB 77	
TOTAL	469.3	596.6	PLUS 27.1
AGRICULTURAL	103.1	110.5	PLUS 7.2
CITRUS	68.3	68.1	MUNUS 0.3
OTHER AGR.	34.8	42.4	PLUS 21.8
INDUSTRIAL & OTHER	366.2	486.1	PLUS 32.7
FOOD, BEVERAGE,			
TOBACCO	19.7	26.9	PLUS 36.5
TEXTILE, CLOTHING &			
LEATHER	31.9	33.9	PLUS 6.3
WOOD, PAPER, PRINTING			
MISCELLANEOUS	14.4	19.2	PLUS 33.3
MINES, QUARRIES, NON-			
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METALLIC MINERALS	12.4	13.8	PLUS 11.3
CHEMICALS, RUBBER &			
PLASTICS-	46.1	53.3	PLUS 15.6
METALS, MACHINERY &			
ELECTRONICS	62.6	102.3	PLUS 63.4
POLISHED DIAMONDS			
(NET)	168.9	233.3	PLUS 38.1

OTHER EXPORTS 10.2 3.4 MINUS 66.7
INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS
EXCLUDING DIAMONDS 197.3 252.8 PLUS 28.1

2. STATISTICS ON EXPORTS OF SERVICES ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE,
BUT ONE INDICATION - THE NUMBER OF TOURISTS VISITING ISRAEL -
IS UP SHARPLY. IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1978, 125,000 TOURISTS

VISITED ISRAEL COMPARED TO 92,000 IN THE SAME PERIOD LAST
YEAR.

3. COMMENT: THE VALUE OF EXPORTS CONTINUES TO CLIMB AT A RAPID
RATE. IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY, SOME CONCERN
WAS EXPRESSED BY OBSERVERS HERE THAT EXPORT PROFITABILITY WOULD
DROP BECAUSE OF THE CUT IN EXPORT SUBSIDIES. SO FAR, EXPORT
GROWTH HAS CONTINUED AND EXPORTERS ARE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE
FUTURE (SEE TEL AVIV A-41). VIETS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOURISM, EXPORT DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TELAV03653
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780120-0642
Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780352/aaaabsfp.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 80a97cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 TEL AVIV 2534
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3285398
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAEL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS, TOURISM UP IN JAN - FEB PERIOD
TAGS: ETRD, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/80a97cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014